

Claims

- [c1] 1. A snowboard binding apparatus, comprising:
- a first binding assembly including an actuator cover and configured to be attached to a top surface of a snowboard;
 - a second binding assembly including a rotating plate, said second binding assembly operably connected to said first binding assembly and configured to be connected to said top surface of the snowboard at a spaced longitudinal distance from said first binding assembly; and
 - wherein said rotating plate is rotatable about an axis perpendicular to said top surface of the snowboard upon removal of weight from said actuator cover, while said first binding assembly remains stationary.
- [c2] 2. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said first binding assembly is operably connected to said second binding assembly with a connecting member including a cable
3. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said rotating plate includes at least one curvilinear slot, said

at least one slot defining the travel path of said rotation of said rotating plate.

[c3] 4. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said actuator cover is biased into an up position when no weight is exerted on said actuator cover.

[c4] 5. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 4, wherein said actuator cover is biased to said up position with a spring element.

[c5] 6. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein said first binding assembly includes a first base plate and said second binding assembly includes a second base plate, said first and second base plates configured to connect to the top surface of the snowboard.

[c6] 7. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 6, wherein said rotating plate is connected to said second base plate.

[c7] 8. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 7, wherein said second binding assembly includes a release lever operably connected to said first binding assembly.

[c8] 9. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said release lever

is moveable from a first position to a second position, wherein said first position prevents said rotating plate from rotating and said second position allows said rotating plate to rotate.

[c9] 10. A snowboard binding apparatus as defined in claim 9, wherein said second binding assembly includes a biasing element configured to bias said release lever into said first position.

[c10] 11. A snowboard binding apparatus, comprising:
a first binding assembly including an actuator cover and a top plate attached to a first base plate;
a second binding assembly including a rotating plate rotatably connected to a second base plate, said first base plate and said second base plate both configured to attach to a top surface of a snowboard;
a connecting member operably connecting said first binding assembly to said second binding assembly;
wherein said actuator cover is movable from a first position wherein a top surface of said actuator cover is positioned substantially above a bottom of a boot binding connected to said first binding assembly and a second position wherein said top surface of said actuator cover is positioned substantially flush with said bottom of the boot binding; and
wherein said rotating plate is rotatable about an axis

perpendicular to said snowboard when said actuator cover is in said first position

12. The snowboard binding apparatus of claim 11, wherein said actuator cover is moved to said second position when a user places weight on said actuator cover.

[c11] 13. The snowboard binding apparatus of claim 11, wherein said actuator cover is moved to said first position when a user removes weight from said actuator cover.

[c12] 14. The snowboard apparatus of claim 11, wherein said second binding assembly includes a release lever operably connected to said first binding assembly.

[c13] 15. The snowboard apparatus of claim 14, wherein said release lever is moveable between a locked position, wherein said release lever is received within a notch in said rotating plate and a released position, wherein said release lever is positioned outside of said notch.

[c14] 16. The snowboard apparatus of claim 15, wherein said release lever is in said locked position when said actuator cover is in said second position.

[c15] 17. The snowboard apparatus of claim 15, wherein said release lever is in said release position when said actua-

tor cover is in said first position.

[c16] 18. The snowboard apparatus of claim 17, wherein said second binding assembly includes a biasing element configured to bias said release lever into said locked position.

[c17] 19. The snowboard apparatus of claim 11, wherein said actuator cover is biased to said first position with a spring element.

[c18] 20. A snowboard binding apparatus, comprising:
a first binding assembly including a first base plate and an actuator cover, said first base plate configured to be attached to a top surface of a snowboard;
a second binding assembly including a second base plate and a release lever, said release lever operably connected to said first binding assembly and said second base plate configured to be attached to the top surface of the snowboard at a longitudinally spaced distance from said first base plate;
a connecting member operably connecting said first binding assembly to said second binding assembly;
and
wherein said second binding assembly further includes a rotating plate, said rotating plate rotatable about an axis perpendicular to the top surface of the

snowboard upon removal of weight from said actuator cover.

- [c19] 21. The snowboard binding apparatus of claim 20, wherein said rotating plate includes a pair of curvilinear slots that define the travel path of rotation of said rotating plate.